

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:RGRICH:FLW  
APPROVED BY EA - MR. GLEYSTEEEN  
S/S-O - SVALERGA  
-----046196 082335Z /61  
O 082303Z MAY 78 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 117298

NODIS  
CANBERRA FOR HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652:XGDS-1

TAGS: PGOV, KS, US

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL ACCESS TO KIM DONG-JO

REF: SEOUL 3810

1. GLEYSTEEEN CALLED IN AMBASSADOR KIM MAY 8 TO ASSESS  
EFFORTS TO ARRANGE SOME CONTACT BETWEEN THE CONGRESSIONAL  
INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES AND FORMER AMBASSADOR KIM DONG-JO.  
(AT THE BEGINNING OF THE DISCUSSION, HE ALSO BRIEFED THE  
AMBASSADOR ON THE FUKUDA VISIT AND NOTED SOME OF THE MORE  
OBVIOUS POTENTIAL SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION DURING  
BRZEZINSKI'S TRIP TO SEOUL.)

2. GLEYSTEEEN REVIEWED THE CONGRESSIONAL SCENE, NOTING  
THAT, DESPITE FAVORABLE HIRC ACTION ON MUTUAL SECURITY  
LEGISLATION AND POSSIBLY SIMILAR ACTION IN THE SENATE  
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FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE THIS WEEK, FLOOR ACTION ON  
ALL KOREA-RELATED LEGISLATION REMAINED HOSTAGE TO UNPRE-  
DICTABLE AMENDMENTS AND BLOCKAGE IF THE ETHICS COMMITTEES  
WERE NOT ABLE SATISFACTORILY TO COMPLETE THEIR WORK.

HE INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT JAWORSKI HAD WRITTEN TO  
THE SECRETARY (SEPTEL) AND THAT IT IS OUR CLEAR UNDER-

STANDING THAT THE HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE IS NOT PREPARED TO

WAIT MUCH LONGER FOR A DECISION ON WHETHER SOME ACCESS TO KIM DONG-JO CAN BE WORKED OUT. IN FACT, WE BELIEVE ONLY DAYS REMAIN, NOT WEEKS, IN WHICH THE ROKG EITHER MUST RESOLVE WHETHER TO WORK OUT SOME ARRANGEMENT WITH JAWORSKI OR TO DECIDE TO ACCEPT THE RISKS OF NOT DOING SO. GLEYSTEN REMINDED THE AMBASSADOR THAT WE HAD NOT PRESSED THE ROKG ON ITS SUBSTANTIVE POSITION ON THIS ISSUE, BUT THAT IF THERE WAS ANY FLEXIBILITY IN THE KOREAN RESPONSE NOW WAS CLEARLY TIME TO USE IT URGENTLY.

3. WE CONFIRMED THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO DIRECT DIALOGUE BETWEEN JAWORSKI AND KOREANS SINCE MEETING IN THE DEPARTMENT APRIL 25. (KIM HAS SUBSEQUENTLY AGREED TO A JAWORSKI MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.) KIM DID NOT RESPOND TO SUGGESTION THAT PETER WHITE AND COUNSELOR PARK CONFER IF IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR THE AMBASSADOR TO DO SO DIRECTLY (N.B. THIS IDEA ALSO PRESSED UNSUCCESSFULLY BY RICH THROUGH PARK LAST WEEK.) HE REFERRED VAGUELY TO POSSIBLE CONTACT THROUGH LEGAL COUNSEL GRIBBEN, BUT DID NOT SAY WHEN THIS WOULD BE DONE.

4. KIM REPORTED THAT HE HAD BEEN TELEPHONED ON MORNING OF MAY 8 BY SPEAKER O'NEILL, WHO INDICATED THAT HE WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY IN HANDLING THE MILITARY TRANSFER AUTHORITY.  
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ZATION LEGISLATION ON THE HOUSE FLOOR UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, AND ASKED STATUS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH JAWORSKI. O'NEILL URGED THAT ROK ACCEPT JAWORSKI'S PROPOSAL FOR ARRANGEMENT WHICH WOULD AVOID FACE TO FACE CONTACT, OR AT LEAST RENEW DIALOGUE WITH JAWORSKI. KIM RESPONDED THAT COMBINATION OF TELEPHONE CALL AND LETTER WAS MAXIMUM HE WAS AUTHORIZED BY ROKG TO SUGGEST AND THAT HE COULD GO NO FURTHER.

5. AMBASSADOR KIM AGREED THAT HE WOULD REPORT URGENTLY TO SEOUL HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH SPEAKER AND DEPARTMENT, EMPHASIZING THAT TIME HAD RUN OUT FOR FURTHER DELIBERATION. AT GLEYSTEN'S REQUEST, HE ALSO AGREED TO INFORM US QUICKLY OF SEOUL'S RESPONSE. KIM INSISTED HE HAD NO FLEXIBILITY IN HIS CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS.

6. WE HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY BRIEFED PETER WHITE IN GENERAL TERMS AND INDICATED THAT WE HOPED TO GET A PROMPT INDICATION OF WHETHER ROKG WAS PREPARED TO OFFER ANY ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY BEYOND ITS OFFER OF PHONE AND LETTER CONTACT WITH KIM DONG-JO. O'NEILL'S OFFICE HAD ALREADY CONVEYED KIM'S "NEGATIVE" REPLY TO THE SPEAKER'S CALL.

7. COMMENT: WE WERE INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF JAWORSKI'S LETTER WITH INDICATION THAT IT WAS DESIGNED TO BE HELPFUL TO BRING ABOUT A RESOLUTION OF THIS PENDING ISSUE, BUT WE DID NOT KNOW EXACT CONTENTS. MAY 10 DEADLINE THEREIN FOR PUBLIC STATEMENT IS SOMEWHAT FLEXIBLE, WE UNDERSTAND, BUT PROBABLY NOT EXTENDABLE BEYOND THIS WEEK. TODAY'S CONVERSATION AT LEAST SEEMS TO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO KIM'S SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENT TO MEET WITH JAWORSKI WEDNESDAY.

8. IN VIEW OF STEVENSON'S STATEMENT (STATE 115360), JAWORSKI'S LETTER, O'NEILL'S TELEPHONE CALL, AND OUR CONVERSATION TODAY WITH AMBASSADOR KIM, ROKG SHOULD  
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CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO ASSESS QUICKLY THE AVAILABLE OPTIONS.

9. WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO THE SUGGESTION IN REFTEL THAT KIM DONG-JO PROCEED PERSONALLY TO INITIATE A LIMITED DIALOGUE, BUT IF THIS IS TO BE HELPFUL IN ANY DEGREE IT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITHIN NEXT TWO DAYS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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